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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,438	12/27/2001	Ta-Kuang Yang	SUND 259	1584
7590	09/01/2004		EXAMINER	
RABIN & BERDO, P.C. Suite 500 1101 14th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005			CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3621	

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/026,438	YANG, TA-KUANG	
Examiner		Art Unit	MW
Mary Cheung		3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2001.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Claims

1. This action is in response to the application filed on December 27, 2001. Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Misra et al., U. S. Patent 6,189,146 in view of Scheussler et al., U. S. Patent 6,366,950.

As to claim 1, Misra teaches a multiple registration method for registering different devices to a digital right certificate (DRC) server, enabling a user to register a first device to the DRC server in order to order and download a digital content through a network, wherein the user uses a first reader to open the digital content, the method comprising (column 1 lines 26-34 and Figs. 1, 3):

- a) installing the first reader into the first device to build connection with the DRC server for further registration (column 11 lines 46-49 and Fig. 3; specifically, “*the first reader*” corresponds to the “*license requester 132*” in Misra’s teaching);
- b) the DRC server generating a user identity (UID), encrypting the UID, and then transmitting the UID to the first reader (column 11 line 66 – column 12 line 7), wherein the first reader stores the UID and a first device identity code in an

encrypted first right record file, and the UID is capable of being retrieved from the first reader (column 12 lines 8-12, 50-51; specifically, the “right record file” corresponds to the “ license cache 136” in Misra’s teaching);

c) the first reader transmitting the first device identity code to the DRC server (column 14 lines 13-15), wherein when the first reader is initiated, the first reader checks the validity of the first right record (column 13 line 67 – column 14 line 13). Misra does not specifically teach the first reader checks if the first right record file has been changed, and then checks if the first device identity code in the first right record file is correct. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the first reader in Misra’s teaching to include the feature of checking if the first right record file has been changed, and then checks if the first device identity code in the first right record file is correct to ensure the validity of the client.

Misra does not specifically teach the multiple registration method uses the same account for registering different devices to a DRC server. However, this matter is taught by Scheussler as allowing the user to use the same account ID to access different computers (column 5 lines 9-12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the client in Misra’s teaching to use the same account to register different devices for simplification of the registration process of the same client to access plurality of the devices.

As to claim 2, Misra teaches wherein the method between the step A and step B further comprises: A1. the DRC server performing examination of registration of the first device (column 13 line 67 – column 14 line 13).

As to claim 3, Misra teaches wherein the method between the step B and step C further comprises: B1. the first reader asking if the user agrees to transmit the first device identity code to the DRC server; if yes, proceeding to step C; otherwise, ending this method (column 13 line 67 – column 14 line 29).

As to claim 4, Misra teaches wherein when the first reader downloads the digital content, the first reader also downloads a digital right coupon and stores the coupon in the first right record file, wherein the digital right coupon records expiry date of the UID to use the digital content (column 1 lines 26-34 and column 11 lines 1-24 and column 12 lines 8-14). Misra does not explicitly teach the digital right coupon records a password of the encrypted digital content. However, Misra teaches using the private key to decrypt the encrypted digital content (column 15 lines 37-49 and Fig. 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the password or the decryption key of the encrypted digital content in Misra's teaching to be included in the digital right coupon for allowing the client easily to access the password or the decryption key of the encrypted digital content.

As to claim 5, Misra teaches wherein the digital right coupon further comprises a field for an owner identity, a field for a serial number of a digital content, a field for expiry date, and a field for password of encrypted digital content (column 11 lines 1-24 and column 12 lines 8-14 and see claim 4 above). Misra does not specifically teach the

digital right coupon comprises a field for allowable times for downloading. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the digital right coupon in Misra's teaching to include a field for allowable times for downloading for allowing the license server to better control the amount of licenses that grants to the clients.

As to claim 6, Misra teaches plurality of readers and devices reside on plurality of clients' computers, wherein the plurality of the readers and the devices are identical to the first reader and the first device described in claim 1 above (Figs. 1, 3 and see claim 1 above). Misra does not specifically teach the second reader uses the same UID as the first reader. However, this matter is taught by Scheussler as allowing the user to use the same account ID to access different computers (column 5 lines 9-12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the client in Misra's teaching to use the same UID to register different devices for simplification of the registration process of the same client to access plurality of the devices.

Claims 7-10 are rejected for the similar reasons as claims 3-4.

Claim 11 is parallel with subject matter of claim 1; thus it is rejected under the same basis.

As to claims 12-13, the modified teaching of Misra as discussed in claims 4 and 5 teaches when the first reader downloads the digital content, the first reader also downloads a digital right coupon corresponding to the digital content, and the digital right coupon comprises: a field for an owner identity, a field for a serial number of a digital content, a field for allowable times for downloading, a field for expiry date, and a

field for password of encrypted digital content (see claims 4-5 above). Misra does not specifically teach wherein while the first reader opens the digital content, the first reader firstly checks the digital right coupon if the expiry date of the digital content is overdue according to the filed of the expiry date, and then the first reader retrieves the password from the filed of the password of encrypted digital content in order to open the digital content. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the first reader in Misra's teaching to include the feature of checking the digital right coupon if the expiry date of the digital content is overdue according to the filed of the expiry date, and then the first reader retrieves the password from the filed of the password of encrypted digital content in order to open the digital content to ensure the validity of the client.

As to claims 14-16, Misra teaches plurality of readers and devices reside on plurality of clients' computers, wherein the plurality of the readers and the devices are identical to the first reader and the first device described in claims 1 and 11-13 above (Figs. 1, 3 and see claims 1 and 11-13 above). Misra does not specifically teach the second reader uses the same UID as the first reader. However, this matter is taught by Scheussler as allowing the user to use the same account ID to access different computers (column 5 lines 9-12). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the client in Misra's teaching to use the same UID to register different devices for simplification of the registration process of the same client to access plurality of the devices.

As to claim 17, Misra teaches wherein the DRC server further comprises a digital right database for storing the UID and the first device identity code (column 11 lines 1-24).

Claims 18-20 are parallel with subject matters of claims 1, 4-6 and 12-13; thus, they are rejected under the same basis.

Conclusion

4. Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ito et al. (U. S. Patent 5,671,354) discloses user authentication information for network of a user and a name of a server to be accessed are sent from a client terminal to a user management equipment realized by one of servers which constitute a network system.

Okamoto et al. (U. S. Patent 5,944,794) discloses a user identification data management scheme for a networking computer systems formed by a plurality of computers which are mutually connected through a network.

Nielsen (U. S. Patent 6,182,229) discloses a user operating a client system may access a plurality of remote servers requiring passwords for access by employing a master password.

Ramasubramani et al. (U. S. Patent 6,233,577) discloses centralized certificate management system for two-way interactive communication devices in data networks.

Hunt et al. (U. S. Patent 6,496,855) discloses web site registration proxy system.

Danneels et al. (U. S. Patent 6,571,339) discloses use of a processor identification for authentication.

Howard et al. (U. S. Patent 6,584,505) discloses authenticating access to a network server without communicating login information through the network server.

Rezvani et al. (U. S. Patent 6,686,838) discloses automatic registration of devices.

An et al. (U. S. Patent 6,715,073) discloses secure server using public key registration.

Karasawa (JP 2001306558 A) discloses enable plurality of users to share the same document.

Inquire

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Cheung whose telephone number is (703)-305-0084. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceedings is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 (Official Communications; including After Final
Communications labeled "BOX AF")

(703) 746-5619 (Draft Communications)

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Plaza Two, Room 1B03.

Mary Cheung
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3621
August 31, 2004

